

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a sebaceous gland disorder comprising the steps of:

a) topically applying 5-aminolevulinic acid (ALA) to a section of skin afflicted with a sebaceous gland disorder, wherein the ALA is compounded for delivery to sebaceous glands and is converted into a photosensitizing agent actuable by energy that penetrates outer layers of epidermis, and wherein the ALA is applied at a low dose that is effective to kill bacteria without modifying the sebaceous gland; and

b) ~~causing a sufficient amount of the ALA to infiltrate into spaces in the skin; and~~

e) exposing the infiltrated section of skin to ~~about 10 J/cm² of energy or greater~~ to cause the photosensitizing agent to become photodynamically activated to kill bacteria and thereby treat ~~and durably modulate~~ the sebaceous gland disorder.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including the step of waiting for the ALA to be metabolized to *PpIX* before exposing the infiltrated section of skin.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the infiltrated section of skin is exposed to ~~at least about 100 J/cm²~~ energy in the range of about 1 to 20 J/cm².

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein an energy source for the energy is selected from among

- i) a laser, such as a pulsed dye laser or laser diode array, and
- ii) sunlight.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the energy has a wavelength in the range of between about 320 and about 700 nm.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the energy has a wavelength in the range of between about 550 and about 600 nm.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ALA is suspended in a pharmaceutical carrier.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said pharmaceutical carrier is selected from among a liposome and an aqueous solution.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ALA is compounded to penetrate the skin via a pilosebaceous unit.
- 10-13. (Cancelled).
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein treatment effects durable amelioration of a sebaceous gland disorder including at least one of acne vulgaris, acne rosacea, and sebaceous gland hyperplasia.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of applying ultrasound to drive the ALA into the spaces in the skin.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ALA is compounded to enter spaces in hair ducts in the skin not occupied by hair.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ALA is compounded to enter space within sebaceous glands.
- 18-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment or prevention of acne, comprising the steps of:

a) topically applying 5-amino levulinic acid (ALA) ~~in the range of between about 0.10 to about 30 percent by weight~~ to skin and a substance which absorbs UV radiation in the UVA or UVB range, wherein the ALA is converted into a photosensitizing agent that is activated by energy which penetrates outer layers of epidermis;

b) causing a sufficient amount of ALA to infiltrate the pilosebaceous unit; and

c) exposing the infiltrated section of skin to sunlight in the range of about 1 to about 50 J/cm² to cause the photosensitizing agent to become photodynamically activated eradicating the bacteria associated with acne.

30. (New) A method for treating a sebaceous gland disorder comprising the steps of:

a) topically applying 5-aminolevulinic acid (ALA) at a range between about 0.10 and 1.0 percent by weight to a section of skin afflicted with a sebaceous gland disorder, wherein the ALA is compounded for delivery to sebaceous glands and is converted into a photosensitizing agent actuable by energy that penetrates outer layers of epidermis; and

b) exposing the infiltrated section of skin to sunlight to cause the photosensitizing agent to become photodynamically activated to treat the sebaceous gland disorder.